

# BAINBRIDGE ISLAND LIBRARY NEWS

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Vol. 8, No. 4

Bainbridge Public Library, 1270 Madison Ave., Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Spring 2006

## Mark your calendar

These events take place in the library unless otherwise stated.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5**  
Library Book Group. *Empire Falls* by Richard Russo 7 p.m.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 8**  
Friends of the Library Book Sale 10-2

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12**  
Low Vision Support Group 1-3 p.m.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 15**  
Island Theatre Play Reading at the Library 7:30 p.m. Short plays, Woody Allen

**SUNDAY, APRIL 16**  
Library closed. Easter  
Island Theatre Play Reading at the Library 7:30 p.m. Short plays, Woody Allen

**TUESDAY, APRIL 18**  
Field's End Writers' Roundtable. Tom Kelly presents "How do you wrap creative nonfiction around facts?" 7 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19**  
Travelogue: A Family's Sojourn in France: The Gendreau family share their experiences of a three-month sabbatical spent in Provence and Paris including le mauvais, le bon et le meilleur! 7 p.m.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 21**  
Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society 10-12 noon

**SATURDAY, APRIL 22**  
Bainbridge Public Library needs assessment public meeting. Ann Lovejoy shares spring garden tips 2-3:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY, APRIL 25**  
Bainbridge Public Library needs assessment public meeting. Martha Bayley, Kitsap Regional Library's fiction manager, shares great new books you will not want to miss. 7-8:30 p.m.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 29**  
Opera preview with Norm Hollingshead: Verdi's *Macbeth* 2 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 3**  
Library Book Group. *Long for this World* by Michael Byers 7 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 10**  
Low Vision Support Group 1-3 p.m.

**SATURDAY, MAY 13**  
Friends of the Library Book Sale 10-2

**TUESDAY, MAY 16**  
Field's End Writers' Roundtable. Playwright, Jordan Harrison, discusses "How can you write for both the reader and the stage?" 7 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 17**  
Travelogue—A tour of Mongolia with Mark Rosenwald, a recently returned Peace Corps volunteer. 7:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, MAY 19**  
Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society 10-12 noon

**MONDAY, MAY 29**  
Library closed: Memorial Day

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7**  
Library Book Group, *Cakes and Ale* by W. Somerset Maugham 7 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 10**  
Friends of the Library Book Sale 10-2

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14**  
Low Vision Support Group 1-3 p.m.

**FRIDAY, JUNE 16**  
Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society 10-12 noon

**SATURDAY, JUNE 17**  
Island Theatre Play Reading at the Library 7:30 p.m.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 18**  
Island Theatre Play Reading at the Library 7:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 20**  
Field's End Writers' Roundtable. Matt Briggs discusses "How can fiction compete with blogs and reality TV?" 7 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28**  
Storytelling for families 6:45 p.m.

## Library treasures

Two paintings by Island Treasure Barbara Berger have been added to the library's art collection. (See *What's new*, page 2.)



Photo by Frank Buxton

## It's sign-up time for writers' conference

Registration closes April 12 for Field's End's writers' conference on April 22 at Kiana Lodge on Agate Passage. There will be no same-day registration.

The event features bestselling authors David Guterson, *Snow Falling on Cedars*, and Erik Larson, *Devil and the White City*, as keynote speakers. During each of two breakout sessions in the morning and two in the afternoon participants will choose among four workshops. Topics cover everything from craft, poetry, memoir and biography to nonfiction, multicultural fiction and the writing life.

Among the authors committed to lead workshops are Karen Joy Fowler, *The Jane Austen Book Club*; Elizabeth

George; the *Inspector Thomas Lynley novels*, Gail Tsukiyama; *The Samurai's Garden*, and Larson.

Other award-winning presenters include young adult and "chick lit" novelist Anjali Banerjee, children's author Brenda Z. Guiberson, novelist and cookbook author Bharti Kirchner, novelist and Pulitzer-prize nominee Craig Lesley, young adult writer Claire Rudolf Murphy, novelist and non-fiction author Sheila Rabe, children's book author George Shannon, historical fiction writer Elsa Watson, poet Kelli Russell Agodon and women's fiction novelist Susan Wiggs.

Continued on Page 2

## Spring Roundtables set

All Bainbridge writers, aspiring or experienced, are invited to join the Field's End writers' community at this spring's Writers' Roundtables at the library.

The Writers' Roundtable convenes the third Tuesday of every month from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the library's large meeting room. Newcomers are always welcome; evenings are structured to include everyone. There is no charge.

On April 18, real estate guru, features writer, editor and author Tom Kelly introduces the question, "How do you wrap creative nonfiction around facts?"

Kelly's book *Real Estate Boomers*

*and Beyond: Exploring the Costs, Choice and Changes of Your Next Move* is due out in April. He is the former real estate editor of the Seattle Times, and his weekly feature "Gimme Shelter," targeting baby boomers and retirement buyers, appears in many major newspapers. His radio show Real Estate Today is in its 12th year on 710-KIRO AM, is syndicated in 40 domestic markets, and airs on 450 stations in 160 foreign countries via Armed Forces Radio.

Playwright and former resident

Continued on Page 2

## Lion researcher to speak here Earth Day eve

On April 21, the eve of Earth Day 2006, the Bainbridge Public Library will host Seamus MacLennan, a wildlife biologist with the Kilimanjaro Lion Conservation Project in Africa.

MacLennan will give an illustrated talk on the challenges facing a wildlife researcher today.

The talk begins at 7 p.m., in the library's main floor meeting room.

Cement statues of lions on gateposts may become the only reminder of the majestic prides of lions that once roamed Africa, MacLennan warns. It is estimated that between 16,000 and 30,000 lions now are left on the entire continent of Africa, where more than 100,000 lions roamed just 10 years ago. In South Africa, free ranging lions no longer exist outside of the fences of national parks or private nature reserves.

Scientists attribute the precipitous drop in lion numbers to the swelling human population in Africa (from 300 million to 900 million in the past three decades).

At least half the lions alive in Africa today are in the still largely unfenced areas of East Africa: Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. Most of the areas where lions survive are on land held by traditional migratory pastoralists like the Masai. The Masai are losing their tolerance for livestock depredation by lions and are killing them in ever larger numbers.

The Kilimanjaro Lion Conservation Project was established to document the population of lions living outside the protected areas of Amboseli, Chyulu and Tsavo-West National Parks in the southern Kenyan Masailand.

Attempting to deconstruct the conflict between lions and livestock has become a crucial part of the conservation challenge undertaken by MacLennan and the Kilimanjaro Project.

To learn more about the complex mix of socio-political factors and conservation efforts in East Africa, join MacLennan April 21 at the library. To read further go to: [www.lionconservation.org](http://www.lionconservation.org).



Seamus MacLennan: Wildlife researcher will speak here April 21

## Inside passages:

Erik Larson's stormy weather ..... Page 5

Young people, children's activities..... Pages 6-7

Library art, PAWS, pets and people..... Page 12



## What's new at the library

By CINDY HARRISON  
Branch Manager

**TWO PAINTINGS** by Barbara Berger, *The Rose* and *An Old Man Steps*, are new to the library's art collection; *The Rose* is now on display in the Young People's Library. Both paintings, created in 1975, were donated by 4Culture and the King County Public Art Collection. Berger, an acclaimed children's author and illustrator, was honored this year as an Island Treasure by the Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council.

**SHARON SNYDER**, young people's librarian for the past two years, has been named assistant branch manager of the Bainbridge library and the search is now on for a new young people's librarian. The library's continued growth in services as Island population increases has made the additional management position a necessity.

**MORE PLAY READINGS**—Overwhelmingly positive audience response to the current play readings at the library have prompted Island Theatre to add a second performance of each reading. Readings are now held the third Saturday and Sunday of alternate months, at 7:30 p.m. April's reading will be short plays by Woody Allen.

**PATRONS** of play readings at the library have contributed nearly \$300 for purchase of theater-related books. New titles now available are *Rent* by Jonathan Larson, *Take Me Out* by Richard Greenberg, *Sight Unseen* by David Margulies, *How I Learned to Drive* by Paula Vogel and *I Am My Own Wife* by Doug Wright.

**NEW HOURS** for the library begin April 1. Commuters will note some later closing hours; the library will be open Mondays through Thursdays from 10 to 8 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays from 10 to 6. Sunday hours remain from 1 to 5.

## Look who's coming to Kiana

Elizabeth George, Sheila Rabe and Karen Joy Fowler (from left) are among the many best-selling authors who will appear at the Field's End conference at Kiana Lodge

in April. Registration closes soon. For details, check at the library reference desk. (See story beginning on page one.)

Continued from Page 1

### Writers' Conference

The \$135 cost includes morning coffee, a salmon or vegetarian lunch buffet and a wine and cheese late afternoon book signing reception with the presenters. Cost is \$120 each for members of book clubs or writing groups of five or more who sign up together.

Registration forms are available in the library lobby and at Eagle Harbor Books. They may also be downloaded from the 2006 Conference page of [www.fieldsend.org](http://www.fieldsend.org).

The website features detailed information about the conference offerings, times and directions.

Books of participating authors will be sold throughout the day, with book sales arranged through the generous support of Eagle Harbor Books. Most of the authors will be available to sign their books at the reception.

The premiere sponsors of "Writing in the Garden of the Gods" are Port Madison

Enterprises, Gilbert Thomes Jewelry and Prudential Northwest Real Estate. In addition to the Bainbridge Chamber of Commerce, other supporting local businesses include Glass Onion CD and Tape Works, Harbor View Guesthouse, Julie's Frame Gallery, Port Madison Home Furnishings and Design, Adam and Eve Clothing, the Foster Law Group, Point White Bed and Breakfast, Bank of America and the Lynwood Historic Theater.

Continued from Page 1

### Spring Roundtables

Jordan Harrison speaks briefly on the question, "How can you write for both the reader and the stage?" at the May 16 Roundtable.

Harrison is a graduate of Stanford and Brown University's MFA playwriting program – and Bainbridge High School. He is playwright in residence at The Empty Space Theater, he has written commissions for the Guthrie Theater/Children's Theater Company and others. He co-edits the annual *Play: A Journal of Plays*, and has been published in several anthologies.

Harrison's plays have been produced and developed at theaters locally, nationwide and most recently at the

Tokyo International Arts Festival.

The final spring Roundtable presenter is short story writer and novelist Matt Briggs on June 20. The question for the evening is, "How can fiction compete with blogs and reality TV?"

Briggs is author of three published collections of short stories, and his first novel, *Shoot the Buffalo*, was published in December. It was described in the Seattle Times as "a small perfect book about large messy things." His stories have also appeared online and in print in magazines such as The Mississippi Review, Monkeybicycle, and The Seattle Review.

Following established format, participants break into small discussion groups after the introduction. After the groups report back, the guest author summarizes all the ideas. Light refreshments and a chance to mingle conclude all Roundtables.

If you have an idea for a Writers' Roundtable topic or guest author, send an e-mail to [info@fieldsend.org](mailto:info@fieldsend.org) (please put Writers' Roundtable in the subject line), or write to Field's End at the library, 1270 Madison Avenue, Bainbridge.

Roundtables are supported in part by a grant from the City of Bainbridge Island's Arts and Humanities Fund, administered by the Arts and Humanities Council.



**PLAYWRIGHT** Jordan Harrison, son of Islanders David and Cindy Harrison and a Bainbridge High graduate, will lead a Field's End Roundtable this spring. (Story at left.)

### Winter Reading Program winner is announced

Bonnie Harrison (no relation to librarian Cindy Harrison) was the lucky winner of the Bainbridge library's 2005-2006 Winter Reading Program drawing.

A total of 238 Bainbridge readers signed up for the program, and 122 read for 20 hours or more. Bonnie's name was drawn from the many entry forms by local author George Shannon.

Harrison's prize is a \$75 certificate for books of her choice at Armchair Books in the South Kitsap Mall.

The winter program was sponsored by Kitsap Regional Library, and library patrons from throughout the county participated.

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MONDAY - SATURDAY 10 - 6, THURSDAYS 'TIL 8, SUNDAYS 12 - 5

# The faces of India

By BARBARA WINTHER  
Photos By GRANT WINTHER

On our recent trip to India my husband, Grant, and I were amazed at the brilliantly colored turbans and saris, the exotic smells and tastes of the marketplace, the juxtaposition of ancient customs with modern ways, the magnificent monuments and the teeming masses of people interspersed with wandering cows, cart-pulling camels and elephants.

What we remember most vividly, however, what we will never forget, are people's faces—those who flashed friendly smiles, and others who looked serious and pensive. Nowhere was this more apparent than during the two days we spent in Varanasi, situated on the Ganga (Ganges), the Sacred River of Mother India.

Flights into Varanasi undergo high security, due to possible terrorist attacks on religious sites and on the Hindus who gather at the Ganga for ceremonies and ritual bathing. In certain areas of the city, the population appears under siege.

Hindus feel they should visit the Ganga once in their life, as Moslems feel about Mecca. The Sacred River, according to Hindu belief, can wash away sins and cleanse the soul. And, since life is considered suffering, when they die, they want to be cremated at the Ganga, so the cycle of rebirth will be broken and they can be transported directly to Heaven.

One night we went down to the Ganga by pedicabs. These are bicycle drawn carriages, usually single occupant, peddled with wild intensity through heavy, honking traffic by wiry men. We were deposited at the ghats, stone steps that rich Mughals built when they owned the palaces along the river. In all of India, to us this was the saddest place, the stairs lined with poor, sick and deformed people, waiting to die. It was hard to walk past them.

Reaching the river, now enveloped in darkness, we stepped into a small boat. The rowers took us by a spectacular ceremony, performed on shore by Brahmin priests, holding up flaming, clarified butter lamps set in racks with metal cobra heads rising over the flames. To the accompaniment of conch shells, bells and chanting mantras that echoed ethereally over the river, the priests performed the Aarti Ceremony in four directions. Multitudes of devout Hindus, who had spread out on the bank behind them, prayed.

We were then rowed past twelve cremation fires. These pyres can be tended only by Untouchables. (Although outlawed by the government, the caste system still exists socially.) Before cremation, the dead person is shaved by a barber, then ritually washed and wrapped in cloth. The family sits close by during the burning. At one point, the oldest boy must smash the skull of the dead relative to free the soul. Afterwards, fragments of bones are collected and the ashes thrown into the Ganga. Feeling we should do something to show our respect and considering it our prayer for peace, we sent lit candles in marigold cups down the river.

The following morning, we returned to witness the ritual bathing by thousands of pilgrims. Awed by the religious fervor and drained emotionally by the entire experience, we needed several days before we could even talk about it.



*Grant Winther's photos, The Faces of India, will be exhibited in the library in April.*

*Travel lectures at the library are co-sponsored by The Traveler bookstore and the library. (See calendar for dates.)*

## BOOKS ON INDIA

**Bowden, Rob, *The Ganges***—explores the history and influence of the river on the history and civilization of India and Bangladesh.

**Danielou, Alain, *A Brief History of India***—a readable journey through time from the earliest civilization to national challenges today.

**Jadhav, Narendra, *Untouchables***—memoir of a family's triumphant journey out of the caste system during a period of great change.

**Lewin, Ted, *Sacred River***—Lewin's watercolors capture the traditions, beliefs and colorful pageantry of the Hindu pilgrims who journey to the river.

**Mistry, Rohinton, *A Fine Balance***—a remarkable novel of life in India, showing the endurance of the human spirit under inhuman circumstances.

*Note: All above references are in the Kitsap Regional Library Catalog.*

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OF  
WISDOM.



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*Tell the board:*

## How well is the library working for you?

By ANN LOVEJOY  
Library Board President

Are you being served?

The Bainbridge Library Board is very aware that our much-loved library fills up fast these days. We know that our excellent librarians are hearing more and more comments about crowding and competition for space.

How about you?

How are you affected by the thousand or so patrons who share library space with you on any given day? Do you have to wait for computer time? Can you always find a quiet, comfortable place to sit and read? Is parking still an issue even with the expanded lot?

We really want to know how well the library is working for you.

We are also interested in how Bainbridge Islanders want to use the library. Are there plenty of books for your children to enjoy? Can you easily find a good book yourself? How about your aging father or your teenaged daughter?

To help us understand these and related issues, the board's Long-Range Planning Committee is undertaking a formal assessment of our community needs. We will be holding several invitational focus groups to learn what Islanders think about our current library facilities and services.

We'll also be asking about the role the library plays in the community today and how that might change over time. There will also be several public meetings where anybody who cares to will be invited to comment.

**These public meetings will be held on Saturday, April 22, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. and on Tuesday, April 25, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.**

Both meetings will take place in the library's main meeting room. Of course, any and all of you are also welcome to write us with your comments any time. You can always leave a letter or note for the board by asking a librarian to put it in my mailbox.

One thing we are already pretty sure about is your desire for more and more books. In every survey so far, books have been at the top of your wish lists. Well, I agree with you. As I get older, I find myself wanting to reduce the possessions in my own home. Borrowing from the library allows me to enjoy the latest books as well as time-tested classics without overloading my own bookshelves.

Together, I feel sure that we can find a way to offer more books and even better services. Onward!

### BAINBRIDGE ISLAND LIBRARY NEWS

1270 Madison Avenue, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

The Bainbridge Island Library News is published every quarter by the Bainbridge Library Board, a non-profit organization, and distributed to all Island residents and local library users. Verda Averill is editor; contributing writers are all regular library volunteers.

Board members are Ann Lovejoy, president; Marc Adam, Janet Brookes, Marite Butners, Joan Gardiner, Caryl Grosch, Kevin Hawkins, Wyman Johnson, Jim Laughlin, Kate McDill, Channie Peters, Jenifer Shipley and Val Tollefson. Branch manager is Cindy Harrison, Kitsap Regional Library representative is Althea Paulson.



Members of Boy Scout Troop #1564 assisted Friday Tidies in the library gardens this spring

Photo by Cindy Harrison

## Book sales pay for many special items and services

By PATRICIA MILLER

If you frequent the children's area downstairs in the library, you will have seen a new chair of generous proportions, large enough to accommodate a mom or a dad and their child while they read a book together.

Thanks to donations from the Bainbridge Island community, the work contributed by Friends volunteers, and to those of you who join us in the bookroom on the second Saturday each month to buy books, the sales have provided the funds not only for our new chair, but also for many other items and services that would not otherwise be available.

Those of you who frequent the Friends' monthly sales are well aware of the broad variety we have to offer. Whether a sports fan or a classics devotee, a true crime addict or a gardener, a biography enthusiast or someone who just likes to sit down and relax with a good book, you know that we have these and many more to choose from.

The monthly book sales, however, represent only one of three sources of income for the Friends. The magazine and book racks upstairs in the vestibule and downstairs near the elevator are a second important source. The third and newest is one that we began to explore last fall: online sales. Dominique Bemis's work in that area has been so successful that the Friends recently contracted



with her to conduct those sales on an ongoing basis.

Whether your interest lies in working with the Friends or in another area of the library, new volunteers are welcome. An application is now available online. Go to [www.krl.org](http://www.krl.org), click on *Support your library* (bottom right side of screen) then click on *Volunteer*. On that page, click on *volunteer application*, fill it out and submit it online. Or, if you prefer, applications are also available at the reference desk.

Thank you for your support. We look forward to seeing you at our monthly sales, the second Saturday of each month.



Book sales provide funds for new chair.

Photo by Channie Peters

## 22,000 reasons for you to support the Bainbridge Public Library

By VERDA AVERILL  
Library News Editor

Neighbors frequently ask me why I work so hard for our Bainbridge Public Library.

The answer is really pretty simple: I know of no other institution on our island which serves so many of us so well.

As editor and publisher of the Bainbridge Review for more than 20 years, I got to know our many non-profit organizations well. I saw our outstanding schools' results as our youngsters thrived and grew into responsible adults. I saw the fine work done by our local churches, Helpline, the Interfaith Council, Rotary and Kiwanis, and other service groups. Certainly I've long admired the great efforts of our fire department, the park district, the volunteers who make our city work.

We now have scores of organizations worthy of our support—and we do a pretty good job of helping them all, thanks to our long-standing One Call for All drive.

But many of us have limited funds and time, and can't afford to do as much as we'd like for every worthwhile group.

So, when the time came to sell our family newspaper and I had more hours for volunteer work, it seemed logical for me to concentrate most of my efforts on one worthy entity. And the Bainbridge Public Library serves more of our nearly 22,000 residents than any other institution I know.

Whether you are 2 years old or 92, there's something at the library for you—from picture books for pre-schoolers to large-type books (and a whole bunch of services) for the visually impaired.

In addition to the books and CDs and other materials, there are all those wonderful local programs. The Speakers Forum. Travel lectures. Play readings. Opera previews. So much is happening here, it's hard to keep track.

On Page 9 of this issue, you'll find a list of those caring individuals who donated funds to the library during 2005. Perhaps you'd like to join the list this year. Or perhaps, if you have more time than money, you'd like to volunteer your skills to help.

Either way, you'll find that helping the library is a good way to help yourself. And your nearly 22,000 neighbors.

# Writing the storm: Author Erik Larson

By SUSAN WIGGS

Although New Orleans and other cities along the Gulf Coast are still reeling from the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, the storm of September 8, 1900 remains the deadliest on record in this country.

Erik Larson writes compellingly of the disaster in *Isaac's Storm*, detailing the terrors to which Galveston, Texas, awakened on that long-ago September morning, from the point of view of Isaac Cline, chief weatherman for Texas and the one individual who could have saved Galveston.

At the time, Galveston was one of the most important port cities in the nation, a beehive of commerce, prosperity and confidence. After the storm slammed the city, leaving the landscape decimated and 8,000 dead, Galveston never regained its stature.

On the heels of the international bestseller, Erik Larson wrote *The Devil in the White City*, which was nominated for a National Book Award.

**Erik Larson will give the luncheon keynote address at the first annual Field's End writers' conference, "Writing in the Garden of the Gods," at Kiana Lodge on Saturday, April 22.**

**He will also offer a breakout workshop on writing narrative nonfiction at the conference.**

Larson is a former features writer for *The Wall Street Journal* and *Time* magazine. His stories have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Harper's* and other publications.

In addition to his fascinating insights into the topics he writes about, Larson will share his expertise with those interested in tackling a nonfiction project. The author is also an experienced teacher, having taught non-fiction writing at San Francisco State, the Johns Hopkins Writing Seminars and the University of Oregon.

In an interview on the Random House web site, Larson explains that he first came across the subject of *The Devil in*

*the White City*, the killer Dr. H. H. Holmes, while researching *Isaac's Storm*.

"I found his story immediately compelling, but only when I began reading about the glories of the World's Columbian Exposition did the story take on the larger resonance that I look for in a book. Taken together, the stories of how Daniel Burnham built the fair and how Dr. Holmes used it for murder formed an entirety that was far greater than the story of either man alone would have been. I found it extraordinary that during this period of nearly miraculous creativity there should also exist a serial killer of such appetite and industry. The juxtaposition of the architect and the murderer seemed to open a window on the forces shaping the American soul at the dawn of the 20th century.

"The fair drew so many of history's brightest lights, from Buffalo Bill to Susan B. Anthony, that doing my research was like crashing a very classy Gilded Age party....I found it so marvelously strange that both these men should be operating at the same time in history, within blocks of each other, both creating powerful legacies, one of brilliance and energy, the other of sorrow and darkness. What better metaphor for the forces that would shape the 20th century into a time of monumental technical achievement and unfathomable evil?"

**The author always works alone, eschewing a staff of researchers, assistants and support.**

"I need first-hand contact with my sources—for example, I found it infinitely valuable to be able to touch the original postcards on which Patrick Prendergast revealed his insane delusion, one that would bring the fair to such a tragic end," he said.

Larson believes every book is a detective story, and his job is to reveal



Author Erik Larson

## A teen's refuge

The library was also a refuge for the author in his teen years. "The local public library is where I first discovered romance, in high school. I was such a geek that studying together passed for making out."

**As a working writer, Larson is a dedicated library patron.**

"I love libraries for the sense of unfathomable knowledge stored in those banks of books—I always imagine that somewhere in the dustier books, typically in Dewey's 900-level books, there are great stories yet to tell. Sometimes when I'm looking for my next book idea I'll wander the 900 stacks at Suzallo and just pick out books at random and thumb through them, just to see what jumps out. Never very productive, but always very interesting.

"Books also are very real. Solid. I like them for the same reason I like stone. In a relativist world, the tactile power of both can help one find one's bearings.

"And by the way, my dog loves old books too. Something about the glue in the bindings, I think—so whenever I take an old book from the library I have to be careful always to keep it up high whenever I'm out of the room. Otherwise, yes, my dog will eat the cover, as in fact occurred with a 19th-century text from the Suzallo library during the research for my next book. Happily, I found a replacement on ABEbooks.com."

To Erik Larson, the best thing about the library is "the 'serendipity effect,' though it applies only to open-stack libraries. You go into the stacks looking for one particular book and when you find it, you discover—thanks to the magic of Melville Dewey (who, regrettably, was a rabid anti-semite)—you discover that it lives in a kind of diaspora of other books that touch on your subject or your era-of-interest in unexpected and compelling ways. It's something the Internet, with its too-focussed search protocols, likely will never match.

"I also like the smell exhausted by old books that haven't been opened in a long time. It's the scent of adventure!"

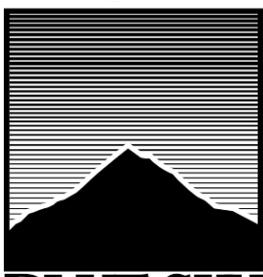
Photo by Roseanne Olson

and report the details. One high point for the author was "coming across the actual death decree for Holmes in the files of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, complete with its ribbon and gold seal. Another occurred when I paid a visit to Holy Cross Cemetery outside Philadelphia and saw the original entry for Holmes's plot in the cemetery's death registry. As I stepped onto the grass in the vicinity of his unmarked grave, under dark clouds, a thunder-clap boomed through the sky. It was a little too spooky, actually, given the Holmes curse. I left soon afterward."

**The public library has long been a part of the author's life, beginning with the fish reading club of his boyhood.**

"Every summer in my hometown of Freeport, Long Island, some good soul in the library would go to great lengths to cover one wall of the library with a blue sea of paper and fake seaweed and so forth, and we'd each be assigned a fish with our name on it, and our fish would 'swim' through the ocean in accordance with how many books we read each week. I was always very jealous of the kids, typically girls, whose books not only made it across the sea but did so even before the summer was half over."

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# Children's Corner

Activities of interest to young people and their families

## People make the difference here

By SHARON SNYDER  
Young People's Librarian

The dogs were a hit. Arayo, a Newfoundland, and her trainer, Karyn Carpenter along with Duncan, a sheltie, and his trainer, Daryce Walton, volunteered their time and talents to the library during the month of February. Kids of reading age came to read aloud to dogs. The dogs offered warmth, encouragement and disciplined attention. Some of the kids came with a fear of dogs, others came with a fear of reading aloud, and still others were attracted to the novelty of the experience. The kids left with their heads held high and their eyes bright with accomplishment. We'll invite the dogs and their dedicated trainers back soon.



Sharon Snyder

Photo by Gail Christensen



AT TEEN MYSTERY NIGHT: Ruby Roberts, 14, and Katy Mitchell, 14, take notes at a crime scene during the who-dun-it event (left). Jen Goetsch, 16, volunteered along with her dad, Paul.



## Rotarians help library

The Rotary Club of Bainbridge Island awarded a generous community grant to fund the completion of the Teen Scene at the Library. The Rotarians join with Kitsap Regional Library, KRL Foundation, Bainbridge Library Board, Bainbridge Friends of the Library and Salisbury Timberbuilt to support local teens in their use of library resources and services. Teens on Bainbridge Island read!

## Big kids and little kids

Carrie Klein, a local resident, came forward and volunteered to coordinate this fledgling program during the four afternoons it was offered in February. She welcomed families with children into the young people's area and matched each of them up with just the right volunteer.

Everyone seemed a little shy on the first afternoon. Once that was over, everyone relaxed. Bright young volunteers read books, shared puppets and worked puzzles with very young children who thrived with the attention.

## Volunteers bring drama to event

Some came in costume. Some came as suspects of the crime with affected accents and belligerent attitudes. Some saw our need and agreed to share their talents at the last minute.

All helped make the event a rich and memorable one.

### NEWS BRIEFS

AFTER six years of service, Marlene LeMire has retired from the Bainbridge Library Board, to a warm thank you from fellow board members. She's been active

in fund-raising and communications, and will continue serving the library as a member of that committee.

## Teen mystery night

### 'Twas a dark and rainy Friday

By SUSAN BISNETT

Hey, did we have some fun at the library in January, or what?

It was new for us, but we were brave, and threw our first annual teen mystery night.

It was a dark, rainy Friday the thirteenth, and the theme was an Egyptian prom night.

The library closed at the usual time and reopened an hour later transformed by volunteers and staff into an exotic Egyptian prom paradise slash crime scene. The prom queen was found unconscious at the bottom of the stairs. Foul play was suspected. Suspects were lined up and interviewed; the crime scene was searched and then searched again.

Thirty local teens got to experience it, and sleuth their way through the library to deduce who-dun-it.

A police officer from Bainbridge Police Department was able to join us for

the critical moments when the perpetrator was revealed, and made the arrest.

Pizza and prizes made a welcome appearance as well.

This event was made possible through the generous support of Kitsap Regional Library Foundation. We'd like to thank the Island School for the materials they shared for display and Bainbridge Performing Arts for lending us costumes.

## Coming in June

Look for interviews with two young authors in our next issue.

Jordan Taylor, 19, has just completed a full-length manuscript, and Michael Donnelly has published a new novel, *Awakening Curry Buckle*, an adventure story set in the San Juan Islands.

You'll read more about these promising young authors in the summer Library News, in your mailbox in late June.

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# Summer reading program, sign-up June 17

By SHARON SNYDER

Mark your calendar for Saturday, June 17

This will be the first day to sign up for our annual summer reading program. The theme is Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales with an emphasis on pets. A stuffed pet contest may be held.

Enjoy spring. Do well in school. And get ready to read this summer.

Let's break last year's record.

## Adult volunteer opportunity

We're looking to continue the Big Kids Read to Little Kids Program this summer and possibly during the school year. We have one exceptional volunteer in place to help develop, coordinate and facilitate this program and need another. The preferred volunteer candidate will have a calm, friendly demeanor with kids, teens and parents as well as a commitment to the sharing of stories and reading.

Please respond to the young people's circulation desk at the library.

## Big kid volunteers

Do you like to read out loud? Do you like working with little kids? Are you at least 8 years old?

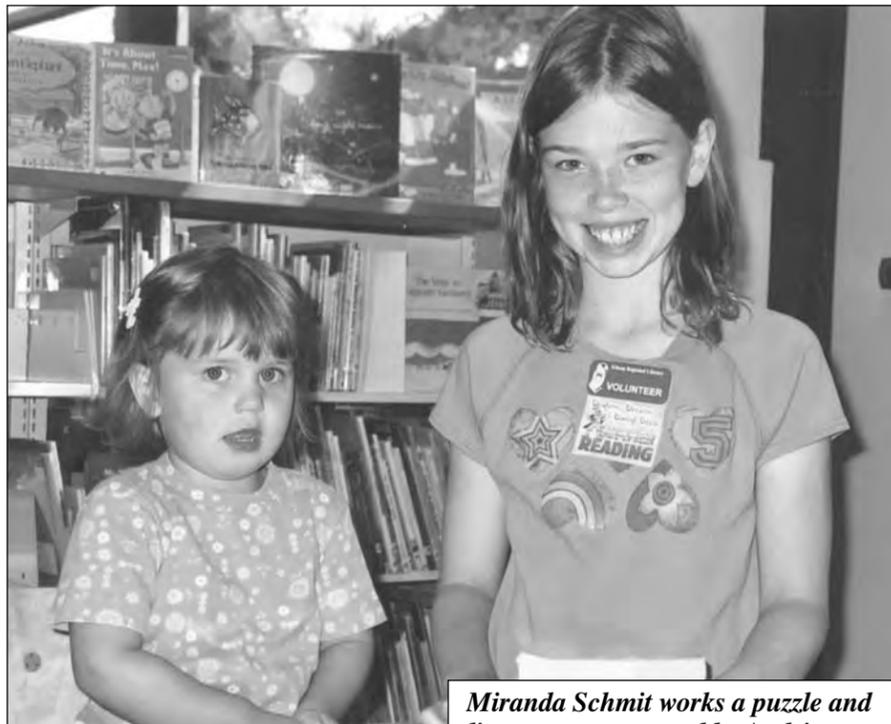
You may want to apply to be a big kid volunteer at the library. We will offer a 30 minute orientation meeting about this program on Saturday, May 6 and again on Tuesday, May 16. This will give parents and kids age 8 and up an opportunity to decide if this program is a good match for the kids' talents.

Attendance at one of the meetings is required in order to participate.

## Teen writer packs ready for pick-up

So you want to be a writer?

These words welcome and inspire you to participate in our



Miranda Schmit works a puzzle and listens to a story read by Andria Clark, summer reading volunteer.

writer pack journal program going on in the teen scene at the library. Created and donated by a local company, the writer pack journal is something you can write in, read and contemplate. It will be something like an ongoing conversation.

*Next time you are in the library, stop in the teen scene and look for the bright blue writer pack. Open it and write. Read. Think. Converse. You'll be glad you did.*

## NEWS BRIEFS

**FRIENDS** of the Library book sales provide funds for many Young People's Library attractions, including the saltwater aquarium.

**PARENTING** information is available in a special collection in the Young People's area.

**NEW HOURS:** Beginning April 1 the library will close at 8 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, and at 6 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. (Sunday hours remain the same: 1 to 5 p.m.)

**LOOK FOR** a new painting by Barbara Berger now on display downstairs. (Story on Page One.)

## Children and family programs

**SATURDAY, MAY 6**

Parent orientation meeting  
Big Kid Reading Volunteer  
Time: 11:00am

**TUESDAY, MAY 16**

Parent orientation meeting  
Big Kid Reading Volunteer  
Time: 7:00pm

**SATURDAY, JUNE 17**

Summer Reading Program begins!  
This year's theme: Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales, All day

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28**

Summer Tales: family storytelling at the library, Time: 7:00pm

# Young people's calendar

## Storytime

**MONDAY, APRIL 10**

Toddler storytime, 10:30am

**TUESDAY, APRIL 11**

Lapsit storytime for babies, 1:30pm  
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12**

Preschool storytime, 10:30am

**MONDAY, APRIL 17**

Toddler storytime, 10:30am

**TUESDAY, APRIL 18**

Lapsit storytime for babies, 1:30pm  
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19**

Preschool storytime, 10:30am

**MONDAY, APRIL 24**

Toddler storytime, 10:30am

**TUESDAY, APRIL 25**

Lapsit storytime for babies, 1:30pm  
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26**

Preschool storytime, 10:30am

**MONDAY, MAY 1**

Toddler storytime, 10:30am

**TUESDAY, MAY 2**

Lapsit storytime for babies, 1:30pm  
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 3**

Preschool storytime, 10:30am

**MONDAY, MAY 8**

Toddler storytime, 10:30am

**TUESDAY, MAY 9**

Lapsit storytime for babies, 10:30am  
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 10**

Preschool Storytime, 10:30am

## Teen Programs

**SATURDAY, JUNE 17**

Summer Reading Program begins  
All day

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# Library director retires after 16 years

Ellen Newberg, Kitsap Regional Library director for 16 years, retired in February.

The KRL Board of Trustees is now soliciting applications for a new director, said Althea Paulson. Paulson, a Bainbridge Island resident, is the current president of the board.

During Newberg's tenure, the regional library grew substantially. Circulation of books, music, movies and magazines almost doubled. Many traditional print resources were replaced with online databases and Web resources, and round-the-clock availability of resources through remote computer access ([www.krl.org](http://www.krl.org)) increased dramatically.

Wireless connection to the Internet for library users came to all nine KRL libraries in early 2003.

During her years as KRL director, Newberg was also active in the wider



Ellen Newberg

Kitsap community. She serves on the board of directors for United Way, and is an active member of the Rotary Club of Silverdale.

In 1991, Newberg led library supporters in establishing the Kitsap Regional Library Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to funding the continued development of high-quality library services.

Newberg expressed her appreciation for "the commitment of KRL team members over the years" and also thanked for their support the Friends of the Library groups, community library boards, the KRL Foundation board, and KRL trustees.

## Computer training classes begin

Click! A new computer training program got under way in March with classes at four of the Kitsap Regional Library branches: Bainbridge, East Bremerton, Poulsbo and Port Orchard.

The courses, which are designed for small group and one-on-one classes, were developed by KRL staff. Community volunteers were trained to teach the classes and host the one-on-one sessions.

Two courses are offered in the Click! series: **Computer Basics**, hands-on

instruction for the first-time computer user, and **Internet 101**, in which students learn to navigate the Web and KRL's electronic library resources.

March classes were held on Tuesdays and Wednesdays in the Bainbridge library. Schedules for April and later were not available at this paper's deadline. For more information, inquire at the library reference desk or phone Jeannie Ream, Click! Coordinator at (360) 405-9021. E-mail: [jream@krl.org](mailto:jream@krl.org).

## Audio-Visual

# Gardening, home improvement programs on shelves

By JOHN FOSSETT  
KRL Media Manager

Recently I was asked by one of my co-workers to staff the library's booth at the Peninsula Home & Garden Expo at the Kitsap Fairgrounds. This provided me with an opportunity to review the gardening, landscaping and home improvement section of our media collection.

Now I'm no gardener, I would find it challenging to keep a cactus alive or grow a Chia pet, but after viewing some of the videos in the library collection I think I may be able to handle a few projects.

For those of you new to gardening and landscaping, the following titles will help get you started. For you more seasoned horticulturists, and handy-people the DVDs and VHS tapes may give you some new ideas and perspectives.

## Gardening

Jerry Baker, America's Master Gardener, started his career as an undercover cop in Detroit, Michigan, posing as a gardener, tree

trimmer, landscaper, and seed salesman. While recovering from an injury Jerry immersed himself in gardening. He's authored many books, had a television series and continues to host a national radio show.

**Jerry Baker's Year 'Round Gardening** (DVD) - Contains five parts with Baker demonstrating how to take care of flowers, lawns, vegetables, trees and shrubs. We have two other DVDs by Jerry: **Jerry Baker's Garden of Herbal Delights**; **Jerry Baker's Garden Wisdom**

Rebecca Kolls, Master Gardener, has served as the gardening and lifestyle contributor for ABC's "Good Morning America" since January 1999 and hosts the half-hour nationally syndicated gardening series "Rebecca's Garden."

**Rebecca's Garden v. 1-6** (DVD) - Features segments from Rebecca's television show, deals with basic garden knowledge, growing herbs and roses and container gardening.

Brian Minter is an internationally known gardener, broadcaster and columnist and founder of Minter

Gardens, just across the boarder from Sumas, WA, in Chilliwack, BC.

This **Successful Gardening Techniques v.1 - 3** (VHS) - gives details for raised beds, soil preparation, plant selection and more, proper seed sowing, transplanting, watering, fertilizing and addressing garden problems and tomatoes.

**Successful Germinating Techniques, v.1 & 2** (VHS) - How to select containers, prepare planting mix, sow all types of flower, vegetable, and herb seeds, control light, humidity and temperature, water properly, prevent diseases and transplant your seedlings.

Ciscoe Morris - No new titles from one of Seattle's own. However, we have a copy of his VHS from 1995, **Lawn Care with Ciscoe Morris: Secrets from the other Side of the Fence** in which Ciscoe discusses starting a new lawn or rejuvenating an established lawn.

Ed Hume, another local expert, has a weekly radio show, a seed company and has written for various local, regional and national publications.

We have his **Green Thumb Gardening Series: v.1 - 4** (VHS); **v.1 - Plants That Purify the Air**; **v.2 - Garden Recipes and Remedies**; **v.3 - The Secrets of Proper Rose Care**; **v.4 - How to Attract Mason Bees, Butterflies, and Hummingbirds**

## Landscaping

**Landscaping** (DVD) - Hometime host Dean Johnson and company lead us through a landscape project from planning to planting.

TJB Landscaping has created a series of DVDs on incorporating water elements in garden projects:

**Water Gardening 101** - Learn about the delicate ecosystem that comprises an all-natural water garden. These titles are also available: **How to Build a Pond**; **Waterfall & Stream Construction**; **Wetland Construction**.

So before you make the run to the hardware or garden store, head down to your library. You may gain some knowledge that will save you time and money.

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# Library donors honored at spring party

Forty-four years after the first Bainbridge Public Library was opened, the library board and staff threw a March 12 thank-you party for library donors.

All who gave in 2005 to the local library, which receives no tax money for its maintenance and operations, were invited.

Among those honored for special service was Elaine Moline, who has been a Friends of the Library member and officer for 20 straight years. You see her often at the Friends' book sales on the second Saturday of each month.



*Elaine Moline has been a Friends of the Library volunteer for two decades.*

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Joanne & Rodney Wright  
Glen M. & Cathy E. Wyatt  
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James & Janet Young, Jr.

*(Editor's note: Was your name omitted? Please let a librarian know. We want to be sure our records are correct.)*

## Bulletin!

### Bainbridge Library wins national award

Word was just received as the Library News went to press that the Bainbridge Public Library has been named one of only 80 libraries—out of 17,000 in the United States and Canada—to be featured in a coffee-table book entitled *Heart of the Community: The Libraries We Love*.

The book, to be published this fall by Berkshire Publishing Group in Great Barrington, MA, is "the first to celebrate the diversity, value, and potential of our beloved public libraries," a spokesperson said.

The Bainbridge library was chosen from several hundred libraries nominated by members of their communities.

The book will retail for \$49.95 and be published in October. All libraries included will receive copies of the book, and additional copies will be sold at the American Library Association's midwinter meeting in Seattle in 2007.

Read more about the book in the next issue of Library News.



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Fiction you'll enjoy**If you liked *The Da Vinci Code*, you'll love these books**

By JULIE O'NEILL,  
Reference Librarian

Dan Brown's provocative thriller, *The Da Vinci Code*, is now heading into its third year on the New York Times best seller list, with no end in sight thanks to the news that Tom Hanks will star in the movie due out in May.

If you are one of the 25 million people who read *The Da Vinci Code* and are looking for more good reads with sinister conspiracies, historical puzzles, and deadly secrets, here are a few more thrillers that might appeal to you.

Like *The Da Vinci Code*, these titles feature intellectual conundrums, religious secret societies, or mysterious documents, most with edge-of-your-seat suspense. Some are considerably more complex than *The Da Vinci Code* and in many cases are better written.

*Foucault's Pendulum* by Umberto Eco. Eco might be credited with

launching the original plotline: a complex conspiracy by a secret religious society. Casaubon, an expert on the Knights Templar, and two friends learn about a supposed coded message in which the Templars, banned as heretics centuries ago, set in motion a secret plan of revenge. The friends feed this information into a computer as a game, but when one of them is murdered, the game turns real. The plot is heavy with historical details, but it's still a cliff-hanger.

*Genesis Code* by John Case. Joe Lassiter, a high-tech security agent investigates the murder of his sister and her young son and discovers a string of unsolved murders of mothers and sons, all of whom stayed at a fertility clinic in Italy. Meanwhile a priest in a remote Italian village hears a confession so terrible that he requests an audience at the Vatican. This fast-paced thriller raises interesting questions about the ethics of genetic engineering.

*The Confessor* by Daniel Silva. A secret society intends to hire a hit man, the Leopard, to kill the latest pope and keep him from revealing the Vatican's secret archives on WWII. Gabriel Allon, an art restorer and Mossad agent, is chased across Europe as he tries to find out the truth about Nazi collaborators, save the pope and get the Leopard.

*The Prophetess* by Barbara Wood. Archaeologist Catherine Alexander unearths ancient scrolls written by a female leader of the early church, that could rock the foundations of Christianity. Her quest for the truth takes her globe-hopping with a handsome priest, pursued by the Vatican, the Egyptian and U.S. governments, the media and a ruthless computer software mogul.

*Map of Bones* by James Rollins. Hooded men invade a German cathedral during midnight mass, slaughter all present and steal a sarcophagus containing famous relics—the bones of

the Magi, the legendary Three Kings. A team from the U.S. covert SIGMA Force follows a labyrinth of clues leading from European gothic churches to the seven wonders of the ancient world, all at a breakneck pace.

*Seventh Scroll* by Wilbur Smith. This well-crafted sequel to *River God* focuses on the search for a 4000-year-old tomb of an Egyptian pharaoh along the Nile's headwaters in Ethiopia. Sir Nicholas Quenton-Harper and Egyptian archaeologist Royan Al-Sima try to unravel the secrets of the "seventh scroll" found in the tomb before it can be stolen by a crazed murderous German collector of antiquities.

*Grand Complication* by Allen Kurzweil. A wealthy, eccentric collector hires a reference librarian to search for an object missing from an 18th century glass-fronted case. The librarian uses his exceptional research skills (yes!) to

*Continued on Page 11*

**New spring books in non-fiction**

By GAIL GOODRICK  
Nonfiction Collection Manager

*All Will Be Well: A Memoir* by John McGahern. Now in his 70s, award-winning Irish novelist McGahern grew up in rural Ireland, the oldest of seven children in a very religious but dysfunctional family. This book is rich in details about Ireland of the '40s and '50s.

*The Caliph's House: A Year in Casablanca* by Tahir Shah. English travel writer Tahir Shah is perhaps the most acclaimed new travel writer. This is his story of his family's move from gloomy London to exotic Casablanca—think of *A Year in Provence*, Moroccan-style.

*The Courtier and the Heretic: Leibniz, Spinoza and the Fate of God in the Modern World* by Matthew Stewart. This book resonates with the contemporary discussion over the role of religion in daily life. The book focuses on the meeting in 1676 between the orthodox Lutheran Leibniz with the freethinking Spinoza who was an "apostate Jew from licentious Holland". While Leibniz championed the place of God and the value of a theocracy, Spinoza championed science and the modern secular state.

*Curry: A Tale of Cooks and Conquerors* by Lizzie Collingham. If you love the complex flavors of Indian food, this book will have much appeal because it traces the multiple influences of different conquerors and explorers upon the cuisine of this area.

*Eat, Pray, Love: One Woman's Search for Everything Across Italy,*

*Indian and Indonesia* by Elizabeth Gilbert. Hurting after a traumatic divorce, Gilbert goes off in search of pleasure and sustenance which she finds through food, love and healing.

*The Explorer King: Adventure, Science and the Great Diamond Hoax* by Robert Wilson. Clarence King (1842-1901) was the Indiana Jones of the 19th century. He was one of those larger than life characters that seemed to populate the American West. Wilson brings his colorful story to light in this fascinating biography.

*The Judgment of Paris* by Ross King. King is a master at illuminating pivotal moments in art history and here he does this by focusing on the traditional French Salon painters, represented by Meissonier

and his highly polished portraits, and the scandalous newcomers, represented by Manet with his loose brushstrokes and dramatic contrasts. The outcome would be the rise of the Impressionist movement and the fall of conventional art—set against the political events of the 1860s and 1870s France.

*Sea of Gray: The Around-the-World Odyssey of the Confederate Raider Shenandoah* by Tom Chaffin. For Civil War buffs and/or maritime history buffs. This is the fascinating story of the Confederate ship Shenandoah that carried the Civil War to the far reaches of the world. This ship traveled 58,000 miles and sunk at least 34 Union merchant ships and whalers.

*The Terror: The Merciless War for Freedom in Revolutionary France* by David Andress. Answering the question, why did the French Revolution turn so bloody, Andress explains how moderates lost ground to revolutionaries insisting on ideological purity.

*Timothy; Or, Notes of an Abject Reptile* by Verlyn Klinkenborg. A totally original book, this is part memoir, part poetry, and part philosophy. It is told through the eyes of a tortoise living in the English countryside of the 18th century. Timothy makes very interesting observations about rural life, sure to open the eyes of us humans who are willing to listen.

**Local science fiction writers produce book, *Obliquity***

*Obliquity*, a book of short stories by Bainbridge Island writers, has just been published by members of the Science Fiction Writing Cooperative, which meets at the Eagle Harbor Book Company.

The volume is almost completely the work of cooperative members. Cooperative members and friends wrote the stories. Layout and interior design, as well as the graphic design for the cover, were done by a member of the group and the father of another member, in consultation with the group. Only the actual printing was done outside the group.

The project was supported in part by a grant from the City of Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Fund administered by the Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council.

The anthology represents imaginative story telling with, at times, "no more than a passing nod to the ordinary norms of science fiction, fantasy or magical realism," says Vicki Saunders.

"Certainly readers can expect to visit the far reaches of outer space and the inner spaces of computerized intelligence, the distant future and the mythical past, but they will also

encounter unexplainable forces of nature, non-corporeal life forms, even intergalactic humor in stories that might not have made their way into more conventional science fiction/fantasy collections," she adds.

The book was released March 23 and celebrated that evening by an authors' reading event at the bookstore.

For more information about the book and the cooperative, talk with Paul Hanson at Eagle Harbor Books, 842-5332, or e-mail: info@tuesdaynightpublishing.com.



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# — Meet the people who serve you —

## Staff member

Patrick Gulke works five or six days a week at the library, serving as both a library assistant and page.

A relative newcomer to Bainbridge (he's been here a couple of years), he's been working at the library for almost a year.

You'll sometimes find him upstairs at the checkout desk, sometimes down in the Young People's Library, where his warm smile puts the children and families at ease immediately.

"He's a joy to work with," says Sharon Snyder, young people's librarian.

Patrick is an avid reader of short stories and is also knowledgeable about films and music; he used to work in a video store.



Patrick Gulke



Leila Ball

## Volunteer

Library work is in the family for volunteer Leila Ball and her daughter, long-time page Virginia Ball.

Leila helps Virginia with the mending of books and audio-visual materials. She has attended a special training workshop at the regional library to learn the needed skills, and takes special pride in restoring

audio-visual materials.

She's been a resident of Kitsap County since 1940, and raised her grown children here.

You'll see her every Tuesday afternoon, working alongside her daughter in a room off the Young People's Library.

"She and Virginia run our branch book hospital, and run it very well," says Cindy Harrison, Bainbridge branch manager.

## Briefly . . .

**ELLEN NEWBERG**, director of the Kitsap Regional Library for the past 16 years, has just been honored by the Kitsap YWCA as their Woman of Achievement for 2005. She will be honored in April at a dinner at the Harborside restaurant in Bremerton.

*Continued from Page 10*

## Da Vinci Code

find the missing object, a watch named "The Grand Complication" made for Marie Antoinette and stolen years ago from a Jerusalem museum. This is an intellectual romp with an appealing cast of supporting characters.

**The Eight** by Katherine Weber. The Montglane Service, an ornate jeweled chess set once owned by Charlemagne, is reputed to hold a code which when deciphered will bring great powers. The code is tied to numerology, alchemy, Druidism, Freemasonry, Fibonacci numbers and mysticism. A young nun during the French Revolution risks her life to safeguard the chess set, and scatter

the individual pieces lest they fall into evil hands. In 1970, Catherine, a young computer expert, attempts to reassemble the set and solve its mystery. Great nonstop suspense.

**Third Translation** by Matt Bondurant. The British Museum has hired American Egyptologist Walter Rothschild to solve the riddle of an ancient Egyptian funerary stone whose inscriptions have baffled scholars for centuries. When an ancient papyrus containing the key is stolen, the conspiracy trail leads him to a modern-day cult of the sun god, Aten. This first novel has faults in its writing style and uneven pace, but its appeal is in the well-

researched mystery of the Stela of Paser, a real-life artifact.

**Club Dumas** by Arturo Perez-Reverte. Lucas Corso, a rare book dealer, is searching for the original "Book of the Nine Doors to the Kingdom of Darkness" which supposedly contains the secret to summoning the devil. His search takes him from Madrid to Portugal to Paris, to the world of a secret society of antiquarians, the occult, fictional and historical characters, with a startling and unforgettable conclusion. This is a suspenseful, literate thriller.

**Last Cato** by Matilde Asensi. Spanish author Asensi, tells an Indiana

Jones-like story with a Catholic nun as the heroine. Sister Ottavia, head of the Vatican's art restoration lab, tries to track down a group stealing Ligna Crucis, relics of the true cross of Christ, from around the globe. She is plunged into intrigue and danger as she encounters a mysterious secret brotherhood, and endures a series of trials based on Dante's Divine Comedy.

**The Third Secret** by Steve Berry. Visions of the Virgin Mary, Secret documents and politicking at the highest echelons of the Vatican are combined in this well-researched thriller.

*Continued from Page 12*

## PAWS

Business Week, he has refocused his attention on community since moving to Bainbridge Island in 1990. His unique gift of vision has brought awareness to a sense of place in his exhibits: "Island Grown: Traces of the Past, An Uncertain Future," "Home Is Where . . . Portraits from Our Interiors" and his recent display in the windows of our late hardware store, **In Praise of Island Stewards**, now published in handsome book form.

All six of PAWS' programs are huge in themselves, and all six are orchestrated by Judy; "I'm not full-time," she says! She works closely



Judy Hartstone



Photo from poster by Joel Sackett

with cat adoption coordinator, Marylou Zimmerman, three part-time cat care technicians, and many volunteers.

Besides adoption programs, a major service of PAWS is the spay/neuter

program, done in conjunction with Helpline, called, For the Health of your Pet, For the Health of Your Community. In this free program for low-income people, about 300 animals a year have been treated on Bainbridge and throughout North Kitsap.

Although there is a 300 square foot adoption center for cats, which is privately sponsored, there is no central office for PAWS, and no adoption center for dogs. There are no immediate plans, but with a sugar daddy for dogs or more funding, the dream is to have an adoption center for dogs. The present program is supplemental to that of the Kitsap Humane Society.

A major part of Judy's work she calls Information and Referral. "People call and we talk about their problems.

Sometimes we handle the problem, and sometimes we refer to a more appropriate source." Much of her work burden will be lightened, she claims, now that information can be accessed on their newly revised website, [pawsbainbridge.org](http://pawsbainbridge.org).

The traveling exhibit, The Many Faces of PAWS, was first hosted by Sterling Bank. Other sponsors, eager to promote this outstanding community resource in the most graphic way through compelling photographs, are Carney/Cargill, Island Fitness, Smallwood Construction and Design, Cynthia Sears and Frank Buxton, and Bob and Fay Krokower.

"The purpose," Judy says, "is twofold: to reach people who need our services and to reach people who want to financially support a local animal welfare."

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# Paula Gill brings rivers to life

By NAN WOOLDRIDGE

Imagine spending your days contemplating, exploring that magical element that controlled your life even before you took a first breath.

Water. It's everywhere. In rivers, a universal dance eddies and ripples in rhythms that change with the slightest sound, with a ray of sun, with a storm cloud—to transmute the beauty, strength or foreboding of a place.

Fascinated by mountain rivers, artist Paula Gill spent nearly 10 years trying to capture their essence as she hiked and sketched in the Olympic and North Cascade Mountains. Armed with her portfolio of loose paper and soft pencils, she made hundreds of drawings that she calls "snapshots" of different rivers and creeks and streams in which water moved around rocks.

She also took a small traveling watercolor kit with her. She recalls one time when she was out doing a large piece and it started to rain.

"I loved that," she said "because it got little spots of water on the paper, and it gave that sketch a real water feel."

She rarely finished a watercolor in the field because "I was more interested in capturing different compositions, so I made a lot of color notes, then came back to my studio to finish up the image."

She translated her compositions first into a series of watercolors, then pastels, then woodblock prints, and finally, into clay tiles.

**Her first River exhibit filled the main room of Collective Visions Art Gallery in Bremerton last year. A similar show that includes river tiles, woodblock prints,**



Paula Gill

**soft pastels and oil pastels will be on display at the Bainbridge Public Library in June, July and August.**

Paula never takes a camera. She always sketches live, tries to interpret the emotion of the moment, especially the contrast of the immovable rock against the flowing river patterns.

"My goal is not to recreate a photographic image . . . because I'm trying to capture a feeling of what the river is doing," she said.

All of her designs are different. She lays examples from a sketch on the table. In a pastel, vibrant with purples, pinks, and greens, she had fun with color juxtaposition. From a similar sketch that she transferred to an unglazed terracotta

tile, sinuous lines of shiny black glaze run over the matte finish, illustrating the way water glides and glints in the daylight.

What inspired Paula's fascination with river water?

"Perhaps it was the desert," she mused. For two years she lived with very limited water near Death Valley in California. She was happy there, but "Every time I went out in the desert I looked for the oasis, for the little sprig, for the tiny bit of green somewhere that promises you there is water nearby," she says.

It was overwhelming for her to come north and see the color contrasts and abundance of water. She started taking day hikes in the Cascades.

"It just caught me, caught my imagination as I came to see water as such a strong symbol of life, of healing, of energy, of renewal."

The more intrigued she became with its essence, the deeper she delved, and saw how water permeates our connections with the metaphysical, the spiritual and the literary worlds.

Experimenting, Paula rediscovered clay, which she had favored years before as a student of fine arts at Carleton College in Minnesota. She found she could bring the other elements—wood block, printmaking, watercolor—into a kind of fusion of a

variety of techniques in the clay. The "V" gouges and "U" gouges, carving tools used for her wood blocks, are used exactly the same for her clay tiles. And she uses glazes very loosely, in a more traditional way, to create a watercolor effect.

She explains the process: "I don't use a mold or any stamps. I make the tiles myself with a slab roller to get the clay even. I cut out the shapes, the rectangles or squares. Finally, while it's still rather hard, before it's dried all the way, I carve the tile."

With tiles, she can achieve the immediacy of a 'close up,' a microcosm of the big picture. There is one called Freefall where water just spurts off a little rock. Another shows a cascade of water falling straight down.

Yet, when asked, Paula finds wood block printing to be the most gratifying of her many art forms. She's drawn by its directness, the fact that there are no other critical considerations, like timing or chemicals, that get in the way.

"It's the same technique that Albrecht Durer used back in the 15th century," she says.

After years of earning a living as a graphic artist for Eddie Bauer, Paula decided seven years ago to open her own tile business, Red Step Studio, in Bremerton.

Her most visible project in the area is a 12-piece tile mural of rudbeckia (black-eyed susan), installed a year ago through 1% for Art, in the main lobby on the first floor of the Norm Dicks Government Center in Bremerton. You may have seen her work at a Bainbridge in Bloom Garden Tour in July or at the Studio Tour in December.

Throughout the Northwest she exhibits her tiles at 15 to 18 juried arts and crafts shows a year.

Her goal now is to find enough time to hike along rivers again.

*(From an unframed print at \$75 to a large pastel at \$750, all of Paula Gill's pieces will be available for sale. Sales profit of 25% is returned to the library. Contact her: Telephone: 206 226 2642 or Website: www.redstep.com)*

## The Many Faces of PAWS

### 30th anniversary exhibit travels on Bainbridge and through the county

Stilly couldn't be found. It was July 4 and, faster than an exploding firecracker, Stilly broke through the fence and took off. His rescuer, who found him three miles away, called PAWS, Progressive Animal Welfare Society. When his owner, Marilynne Gardner, called Paws the next day, Judy Hartstone, executive director of PAWS, happily reported that she knew where he was and gave his relieved owner a telephone number to locate him.

That was one face of PAWS. Another was used to assist with surgery the frantic owner of a chocolate labrador that ate a nylon scrubby.

An easy one was "magical," said Diane Bonciolini who is allergic to dogs. Her son Zac, 10, found out she wouldn't be allergic to a shih-tzu, so she called

PAWS with the dim hope of finding one. Lo and behold, the very next day PAWS received a call from a woman who needed to relinquish her shih-tzu puppy. "A real boy's dog," said Diane.

Three testimonials of happy people PAWS has served from thousands of pet owners who have called since its inception in 1975.

For a commemorative 30th Anniversary Exhibit, Judy wanted a graphic way to show the public what PAWS does.

"So much of what we do is seen by the individual we help, but the community doesn't know we're doing it. Some people think all we do is cat adoption. Others think we just do lost and found."

Who else but photographer Joel Sackett, noted far beyond Bainbridge Island for his poignant images, could create this exhibit which will appear on the library walls during the month

of May. A great animal lover, he had already made six photographs for a party PAWS had last year.

"Let's just expand this into a show," he suggested. He made 18 photographs which illustrate the six programs or faces of PAWS, three photos for each of the programs: 1) the spay/neuter program, 2) emergency veterinarian care, 3) dog lost and found, 4) cat lost and found, 5) cat adoption, and 6) dog match making.

"No, we're not making dog babies," Judy laughs about the latter mission. "We're matching up dogs who need new homes."

Joel's evocative black and white photographs capture the relationship between dogs or cats and their owners. After a career of photographing the streets of major cities and remote regions of the world for prominent magazines including National Geographic, Time and

*Continued on Page 11*

## LIBRARY HOURS

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*(See calendar on page 1 for closures.)*

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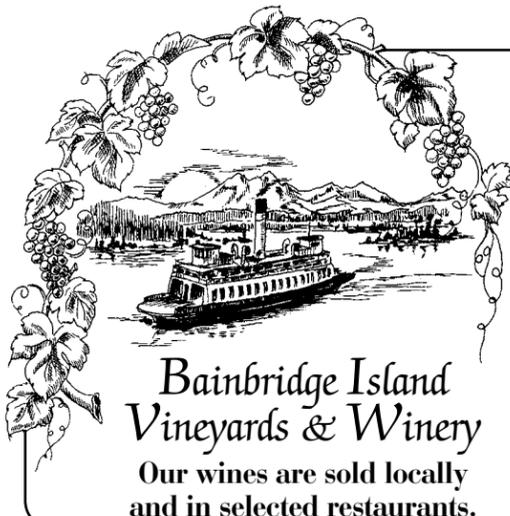
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**Town & Country Market**  
343 Winslow Way East • (206) 842-3848



**Bainbridge Island  
Vineyards & Winery**  
Our wines are sold locally  
and in selected restaurants.

Helping Keep Bainbridge Island Green and Beautiful

*We make our wines  
the old-fashioned way...  
We grow them!*

(206) 842-WINE/9463

Our new tasting room is now open  
at 8989 E. Day Road  
Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays 11 to 5